

The Region ReCAP

Southeast Region

...news from across the Region



Alabama-Florida-Georgia-Mississippi-Puerto Rico-Tennessee

August 2004



COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

Col Tony Pineda

As another CAP year comes to a fiscal end, I'd like to take this opportunity to reflect on just some of our many outstanding accomplishments over the past year.

Southeast Region hosted the first Winter Encampment in many years with over 200 cadets. Georgia was the site for the International G-8 World Summit where they tasked us with Homeland Security Missions. Alabama converted a step van into a "State of the Art"

Communications Vehicle. Mississippi received an "Excellent" on their SAR Evaluation. Florida has continued flying security missions around Cape Canaveral. Puerto Rico has two cadets that have received appointments to the Air Force Academy. Tennessee hosted "Heartland Response 04"

There are too many more to list, however the highlight for me was to watch the cadets from Puerto Rico's Drill Team and Florida's Color Guard both place **FIRST** in the National Cadet Competition. What an honor for our region.

Southeast Region has received various National recognitions, some of which include:

- National Cadet of the Year - C/Col Hila Levy, PR-126
- National Squadron of Distinction - Dr.Cesareo Rosa - Nieves Cadet Squadron PR-123
- National Counterdrug Officer of the Year - Lt Col Ernie Bilotto, SER-001

I would like to personally **THANK** each and every one of you for your contributions to the success of the Southeast Region. This could not have happened without you. **We make a GREAT team!**

Saturday, August 14, 2004: My family and I would like to offer our sincere concern to all those affected by Tropical Storm Bonnie and especially to the State of Florida who was hit hard by Hurricane Charlie. Our thoughts and prayers are with you during these difficult days.

July 27 – August 2, 2004. Col Pineda attended the annual Experimental Aircraft Association Air Show in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, better known to our cadets as the Blue Beret Special Activity.



Left to right: Col Richard Greenhut, Northeast Region Commander; Mr. Tom Poberezny, President of the Experimental Aircraft Assoc.; Col Rex Glasgow, North Central Region Commander; and Col Tony Pineda, Southeast Region Commander during the ribbon cutting ceremony for the recent renovations of the Oshkosh Cadet Training Center.



Maj Gen Richard Bowling and representatives from the Cessna Aircraft Company with the \$30,000.00 donation for the renovations to the Oshkosh Cadet Training Center.

SER COUNTERDRUG

Submitted by Ernie Bilotto, Lt Col, SER Counterdrug Director Operations and Ed Kessler, Capt, SER/CDDA

SOUTHEAST REGION COUNTERDRUG PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Over the previous 5 years, prior to Col Pineda becoming the Southeast Region Commander, it had been the general practice for Southeast Region Counterdrug to coordinate and process all the necessary paperwork associated with Southeast Air Defense Support (SEADS) missions. One of the very first requirements that Col Pineda put into place was to transfer all responsibilities for the member owned aircraft supporting the SEADS to the Southeast Region. What this meant was, SER would now collect the 15% administrative monies associated with these missions since we were doing all the associated administrative duties. This was a bold step on his part, immediately losing favoritism from his wing commanders who would be losing these funds and by National Headquarters, who stated that no other region does it this way. It has proven to be a huge success, providing for supplemental funding to the SER CD budget that had been reduced by National Headquarters with their budget restraints. It has supplemented equipment, survival gear re-certification and communications where necessary.

Col Pineda, who is currently an agent with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) for over 20 years knows and understands the importance of the Civil Air Patrol's Counterdrug Program. His experience, skills, insights and decisive leadership initiatives, over the past 3 years has provided our **TEAM** with the assets necessary to support the wings and perform in an exemplary manner. The direct result of which was to elevate the performance of the SER Counterdrug program a notch above the rest. The key factors to this are that SER did not only support wings, but performed with the wings in an operational capacity, which is not the norm for regions. This operational capacity is demonstrated across the board with his selection of operational persons in key positions and how they have unquestionably worked well together.

It has been our pleasure to serve the Auxiliary's Southeast Region, Commander Col Pineda and our Nation. On behalf of myself and Lt Col Bilotto, Director SER CD, thank you for the privilege of service and the camaraderie of your association.

For the Director SER/CD, Edward L. Kessler, Capt, SER, Counterdrug Director Asst.

YEAR IN REVIEW

Increased operational tempo, is not only a reality for the armed services professionals fighting the Global War on Terrorism, is a reality for Southeast Region (SER) Counterdrug Director Lt Col Bilotto, his Staff and supporting Wing CD aircrews. Fiscal year 2004 has evidenced a clear need by 1st Air Force. Most importantly that this need was met by SER CD, through the special role of its crews and aircraft of various configurations which participate in live exercises and providing a unique "challenge" to the Air National Guard (ANG) Fighter Squadrons of the Southeast Air Defense Sector. ANG's Combat aircraft now patrol our skies for 1st Air Force / NORTHCOM, with a mission to confront and defeat any airborne threat. SER CD SEADS missions help them to do just that. We provide the majority of that support for the nation at large. Our volunteers, selected crews, experience professional satisfaction in supporting these war fighters. To date for 2004, National Headquarters indices show that SER CD provided the Southeast Air Defense Sector Fighter Squadrons with 221.7, hours in comparison to 47.2, for another sector. The true significance of these numbers are represented by the fact 1st Air Force is using CAP vs. a private contractor which they had used annually for \$4 million a year prior to 1997, which represents a substantial saving to the tax payers.



TRAINING / COMMUNICATION

Despite a continuously withering budget, we have retained quality personnel within SER CD. A task, which eludes most organizations. Again SER CD; Director Lt Col Bilotto, with minimal staff, visits, mentors and supports SER Wing Counterdrug Officers and units to facilitate mission readiness through professional development, and proficiency through support of joint CD training between wings as one means to instill high competency. Aids in procurement of mission support tools, and education through monthly telephone conferences and training sessions provide safe operational principles and support. This has been highly praised by NHQ, CAP USAF for the extremely effective way to conduct training, both cost efficiently and standardizing training for personnel. Requirements e.g. post mission documentation, mission readiness maintenance, guidance per CAPR 60-6, 60-3, 173-3 as well as problem solving measures related to safety, communication issues. Additional goals to re-establish an imagery support program for EPIC and other federal agencies for the southern united states of are on track with the selection of a new staff member. A conversion is also underway of the CD handbook into quick reference field manual.

SPECIAL HIGH PROFILE MISSIONS

Significantly, prior to the gathering of world leaders at the International G-8 World Summit in June, Lt Col Bilotto was asked to formulate the resources of SER CD and several wings to assist the 1st Air Force, USAF, USN, USCG, BICE, Secret Service and other agencies in a preparatory air defense, air suppression operation. The activity was designed to insure the safety of President Bush, Russia's President Putin and numerous other dignitaries who traveled to Sea Island, Georgia. SER CD had the ultimate oversight responsibility providing air mobility assistance to 1st AF Command and tasked numerous personnel within the SER and wings, Mississippi, Alabama, Florida and Georgia supporting these operations for a weeklong period. In addition, we were tasked for an additional week flying radar track routes due to numerous radar anomalies identified during the previous week. This tasking was met with minimal man power by the Georgia Wing who met these requirements and again assisted raising SER CD far beyond anyone's expectations in the 1st Air Force being completed at a cost of approximately \$40k, a tremendous savings to the American tax payer. To top it off, this very high profile special mission was conducted safely and efficiently with approximately 50 sorties flown totaling over 120 flight hours, of which two sorties were of the highest urgency transporting personnel and highly classified documents to Tyndall for timely briefings.

CONCLUSION

To the recorded month of June 2004, the CD Director, CDD Assistants, SER staff worked a total of 547 man-days or 68,375 hours. This has resulted in the following. Out of 8 regions, SER HQ/CD ranks as the 3rd highest number of CD missions performed with the 2nd most in sorties flown and a close 3rd in quantity of flying hours. These numbers are unmatched as well as they are revealing when one considers that unlike other region HQ's, most of the SER HQ/CD missions are SEADS that we have reported here, which of course do not include the other operational support provided by ES. Of these numbers, they represent for the most part of member owned "high performance" Twin-engine aircraft as well as the corporate C182 aircraft. This demonstrates the unique quality, character, abilities and commitment of the people who insure mission success of Southeast Region Counterdrug program.

SER DRUG DEMAND REDUCTION PROGRAM

Submitted by David Mikelson, Lt Col, SER Drug Demand Reduction Coordinator

**SER Drug Demand Reduction Program
Florida Schools Group
Civil Air Patrol
PO Box 429
Jupiter, FL 33468-0429**

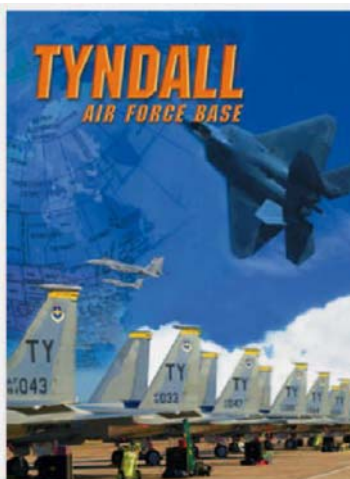


Greetings!

As the DDRC for the Southeast Region, I am working to expand CAP participation through the recruitment of new unit and wing administrators and unit officers, through activities during Red Ribbon week, and by expanding the number of units in our CAP Schools Program. The Drug Demand Reduction Program (DDRP) is essential to our work in CAP and to our efforts as parents and citizens to fight the influence of drugs on America's youth in our society. Since many of you may not be familiar with the DDRP, the definition of the program and DDRO and C/DDRO positions are given on page 4 from CAPR 51.1. Everywhere our young people turn, there is pressure to use drugs and alcohol — from their peer groups, from images in movies and lyrics in music, and unfortunately also from observing adults in society. Getting high is often portrayed as harmless fun when in fact it can lead to serious mental and physical health problems. In CAP, seniors and senior and cadet officers provide the leadership, discipline and role modeling to counter these images. CAP activities, such as the Winter Encampment featured in this newsletter, provide drug-free opportunities for excitement, challenge and fun. I urge you to become involved!

Calling All Seniors and Cadet Officers from across the region for the Winter Encampment at Tyndall AFB. This is the ideal encampment venue for our region cadets — and for you — to have an authentic and wide-ranging Air Force experience billeted on a real air force base with great facilities for training and for learning.

Apply Now!



Southeast Region Winter Encampment

December 26, 2004

Through

January 4, 2005

PANAMA CITY, FLORIDA

Senior and Cadet Officer Deadline for Application is

October 1, 2004

MESSAGE FROM THE REGION COMMANDER, Colonel Antonio Pineda

The Southeast Region has participated in the Annual Red Ribbon Campaign for the last two years by mailing to each cadet red ribbons, ideas for activities, and applications for recruiting new members. This year in October we will again be sending red ribbons and also information about the Winter Encampment at Tyndall AFB, a great CAP activity. We are looking forward to receiving applications from senior members and cadet officers for this activity.

SER CHAPLAIN

Submitted by Ch Ralph Rivers, Lt Col, SER

THOUGHTS FROM THE CHAPLAIN Southeast Region Headquarters Chaplain

Have you ever known anyone who thinks all of life is like a half empty glass of water? No matter how things are, to them times are always on the verge of disaster. The longer you stay around them, the more depressed you get. Then there are the folks who are like a half full glass of water. They see life as an opportunity to achieve or do something that really matters, not only for themselves but for others as well. Those are the kind of people that are great to be around. They are on the road to filling up the rest of the glass of life and I want to be there when it overflows!

I've been blessed to have spent the last few years working with some really great people in CAP/USAF Auxiliary. I've seen the Region accomplish more than I would have imagined, in service to our neighbors and others who depend on us when times get a little tough. What a bunch of volunteers! The Southeast Region, under the command of Colonel Tony Pineda and a very competent staff, has accomplished much with often little more than "guts and grit." If I wanted a good definition of what it means to be an American I need only to look at the list of men and women who make up SE Region staff. I would also include their families. Without our families support we would not be able to give so freely of our time and resources.

The Bible often refers to the life of service as being part of God's plan for the best in human community. It is God's intention that we care for each other, not only as acts of charity, but in genuine appreciation for the gift of friendship that we are invited to share. For the friends who are mine because of CAP I am truly grateful.

Our Commander, Col Tony Pineda, is seeking the post of National Commander. I hope he is successful. He has proven his leadership ability. He has surrounded himself with competent, dedicated, and loyal people. He has prepared himself well and is ready for the responsibility that comes with the role of National Commander. In his quest for this task, I have been pleased to offer my support and prayers that the will and wisdom of the Creator of everything will be done.

I look forward to seeing you in Tampa in August.

SER MEDICAL

Submitted by Pat Faunt, Lt Col, SER Nurse Officer

PROTECT YOUR HEALTH WHILE TRAVELLING

If you are going abroad, it's wise to check which vaccines and treatments are recommended, or required for the country or region you plan to visit. Highly developed regions such as Western Europe, Japan, Australia and New Zealand are generally pretty safe. In countries with poor sanitation and mosquitoes you are increasing your chances of acquiring some kind of disease or illness.

SER Medical continued

Before traveling make sure your standard vaccinations are up to date, especially diphtheria, tetanus and polio. A good idea is to check with your family physician. However he/she may not be up to date on foreign country immunizations and preventative measures, so you may want to visit a travel-medicine clinic. The web site is www.istm.org <<http://www.istm.org>> (International Society of Travel Medicine.)

Also think about emergency medical insurance. Check with your health insurance carrier to make sure your policy covers overseas illness or accidents. (Medicare does not cover medical expenses incurred outside the U.S.) If you are not covered consider purchasing travel insurance. If you happen to be in an area of the world that cannot provide adequate medical treatment, contact the U. S. State Department for assistance.

Be aware of DVT, deep vein thrombosis. These are blood clots in leg veins that can kill you by traveling to the lungs. This is caused by sitting too long without moving your legs. If your traveling by car, the AAA suggests frequent rest stops, about every 2 hours or so. Get out and move about. If you are traveling by plane request an aisle seat or an emergency-exit row that has additional leg room so you can stretch out and get up more easily. Exercise your legs while seated by stretching your lower legs and flexing your feet. Periodically walk around the cabin. Drink plenty of water and minimize caffeine and alcohol.

If you travel by ship you may want to purchase over the counter seasickness remedies or purchase a wristband to prevent nausea. Other helpful hints are to stay in the middle of the ship, both vertically and horizontally, avoid heavy meals, limit alcohol, keep busy and keep your eyes on the horizon. To sum it up, USE COMMON SENSE, watch what you eat and drink.

Enjoy and have a good vacation. Take care and be aware.

I.A.C.E. CADETS

Submitted by Eileen Parker, Col, SER Vice Commander



Lt Col Bill Crowley, SER (Instructor) with I.A.C.E. Cadet Wayne from Australia

***IACE Cadets
GLIDE over
Homestead***



In the air, before release

On Sunday, 01 August 2004, the visiting IACE cadets were treated to an exciting day of Glider flights, compliments of Civil Air Patrol and Miami Gliders. Each of the cadets experienced hooking up the glider, launching it (by running along side the wing), as well as flying the glider. Several of the cadets were proficient enough to land the plane. Instructor, Bill Crowley of the Southeast Region, flew all of the cadets as well as their escort, and SER Vice Commander Eileen Parker. Southridge Cadet Squadron provided food and a Color Guard Presentation.

The IACE Cadets said that this was one the highlights of their trip.



BOEING TRAINING

Submitted by Eileen Parker, Col, SER Vice Commander

SER Hosts Boeing Training

Wing members of the Southeast Region received three days of extensive training on one of CAP's latest technologies, the Visual Computing Network (VCN) conducted 06-08 August 2004 in Ft Lauderdale, FL. The VCN is comprised of two software products, Boeing BattleScape and Jeppesen Flight Map. The VCN will improve command and control, daylight situational awareness, and safety for flight and ground operations.



BattleScape is a viewing and analysis software that has many capabilities. One feature of BattleScape is that it gives users a 3D view of Land Sat 10m satellite imagery overlaid on digital terrain data which can be used for mission planning, rehearsal and actual performance.

Flight Map is a complete electronic flight planning software package from Jeppesen, which will streamline all aspects of flight planning using electronic charts and weather.

Southeast Region Commander, Col Tony Pineda welcomed all the trainees. He spent time at the training session to learn more about this technology initiative. The Southeast Region is the **FIRST** Region in Civil Air Patrol to complete this training.

SER PERSONNEL

Submitted by Diane Reid, Maj, SER Director of Personnel/PAO

On a personal note, I would like to take a moment to say thank you to Col Tony Pineda for giving me the opportunity to work with and serve the members of the Southeast Region, Civil Air Patrol. Under his leadership, both at Florida Wing and Southeast Region I have had the pleasure to meet an extraordinary group of hard working, dedicated individuals who I am happy to call my friends. Thank you, Col Pineda for your leadership and your friendship.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Lt Col June Camp
Capt Judi Levitch
1Lt Iris Feliciano

September 11
September 22
September 18

PLEASE JOIN US IN WISHING THEM A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



ALABAMA WING

Commander: Col John Tilton

Submitted by Pat Mitcham, Major, AL Wing PAO

Birmingham, AL. – The Alabama Wing, Civil Air Patrol, held a Search and Rescue (SAR) Management Course in Birmingham, Alabama, June 19-20, 2004. AFRCC staff members, SGT Busbee and SSGT Walker were the instructors for the group of volunteers who met to learn, upgrade, or renew their skills in Search and Rescue Management techniques. The class session of the course allowed Sgt. Busbee and

Alabama Wing continued

SSgt Walker to provide the students with the latest information that is available.

The students were divided into groups for the second half of the course and presented with an exercise to find a simulated overdue aircraft. As the teams worked through the scenario and presented a press conference of each team's progress during the exercise, the instructors were able to evaluate and provide assistance to those attending. The final evaluation by both instructors and students was that this was time well spent.

Alabama Wing members completing the course were 2 Lt Robert Arnold, Maj Jean Spruill, Maj Dennis South, Maj Benton Gup, Maj Mike Long, Maj Pat Mitcham, Maj Henry Decker, Lt Col Glen Rush, Lt Col Stephen Howard, Lt Col Mike Husband, Lt Col Dennis Flowers, and Lt Col Gene Mitcham.

FLORIDA WING

Commander: Col Matt Sharkey

Submitted by 2Lt. Charity Prescott, C/Amn Alisa Prescott, Public Affairs Officer, DeFuniak Springs Squadron



Fails, Chapman, Spaid, Farmer, & Bell



Graduation Day

Annville, Pa.- Halfway between Harrisburg and Allentown, lays a 70-acre property that became home to over 170 Civil Air Patrol cadets from across this great nation of ours. Included in that group were 5 cadets from the DeFuniak Springs Squadron. Cadets Fails, Chapman, Spaid, Farmer and Bell signed up for an adventure in the Pennsylvania wilderness (above left). Each cadet was responsible to maintain his or her own food supply and daypack. This was not a vacation at any fancy hotel. This was hard-core rugged surviving in the wilderness. No showers, no electricity, and no mothers to comfort them.

The Ranger School is designed to train the youth in valuable search and rescue training. A typical day started at 5:30 am with physical training, which included an obstacle course and a 1-mile run; followed by training formation, and class. The day ended with character development and preparation for the next day.

Other activities included a three-day Field Training exercise, which involved spending three days on the mountain away from base camp. Each cadet practiced search skills, campsite preparation, rappelling, wild game preparation, and navigation as well as many other ranger skills. Testing was also part of the ranger school. Those who were eligible tested for Ranger grades. Highest grade is Ranger 1st Class, which is not offered to a first year attendee. Cadets Chapman, Bell, and Farmer received Ranger 3rd class and Cadets Spaid and Fails received the Ranger 2nd class award. All received a Certificate of Completion. Congratulations to our cadets. All attended the graduation ceremony (above right).

Civil Air Patrol would like to extend their appreciation to the following individuals for their help and donation of time and/or money to make this event possible for our cadets: Ritz Food Store, Inc. \$100 donation for transportation costs, Lillian Huggins \$100 for transportation and lodging cost, John and Sandra Cecil for lodging costs, and drivers to and from Pennsylvania who donated their time: Capt. Jimmy Macon, 1Lt. Sue Taylor, 2^{LT} Belinda McMillan, and 2Lt. Charity Prescott.

Florida Wing continued

Submitted by Linus Gomez, 1Lt, Commander, Miami Beach Cadet Squadron

Charleston, SC 06 JUN 04

A total of 15 members from the Miami Beach Cadet Squadron participated over the weekend on a trip aboard a USAF C-17 aircraft on their visit to Charleston, SC. Aside from enjoying the thrill of riding on the newest transport plane in the USAF's inventory, the members were treated to a tour of the Citadel Military College. As special guest, C/LTC Paul Gonzalez from the Tamiami Composite Squadron, who will be attending the Citadel this fall, was treated to a grand tour of his future home for the next three years. Later on that same afternoon, the group headed over to Patriots' Point, home of the Yorktown Museum, a WW2 Aircraft Carrier. That afternoon and evening, the group



toured some of the historical sites in downtown Charleston, and enjoyed a bit of the beautiful sights the city has to offer.



On Sunday, they were allowed to tour the ramp at Charleston AFB and ask questions on the Airlift operations conducted by the 437th AWG based there. This proved to be a unique activity for the cadets as they were able to get acquainted with the newest equipment operated by the Air Mobility Command, as well as talk to current Active Duty, and Reserve personnel about their experiences and the opportunities available to them.

Many thanks, on behalf of the Miami Beach Cadet Squadron, their Commander 1Lt Linus Gomez to the following entities and people, without whom this activity would not have been possible: United States Air Force, Air Mobility Command, the 437th Air Wing, Maj. Welsh, the Public Affairs Officer of the Charleston AFB, Maj. Welsh, Coastal Charleston Composite Squadron specially to his Commander Capt. Warren E Williams.



TENNESSEE

Commander: Col Jim Rushing

Submitted by Jim Rushing, Col, Tennessee Wing Commander

The following is a thank you note received from the Commander of the Middle East Region, Col Charlie Glass.

"Jim, thanks for your offer of support for our potential SDIS problem during the recent exercise *DETERMINED PROMISE 04*. As it turned out, because of the time of the things that we were asked to do, we were able to cover them with our single SDIS aircraft that was in service last week. But I want to

Tennessee Wing continued

express my sincere appreciation for the willingness of the Tennessee Wing and Southeast Region to jump in and help out if we had needed you. This type of cooperation is what we need to promote nationwide.

Please call on the Middle East Region whenever we can return the favor.”

Today's safety slogan is: by Cadet Marshall A Young

Think twice, act once.

SER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

18-21 August	National Boards, Tampa, FL
28-29 August	SLS Training, Lakeland FL
11-12 September	Professional Development Weekend, MacDill AFB
30-31 October	Florida Wing Check Pilot School
5-7 November	Tennessee Wing Conference, Chattanooga, TN
27 Dec 04 – 02 Jan 05	SER Winter Encampment, Tyndall AFB, FL
	Commander: Ltc Robert Masiker, rmasiker@juno.com

Please send all Squadron and Wing Newsletters to dreid1953@bellsouth.net

****Editors Note: 2004 is an election year in Civil Air Patrol. Col Tony Pineda, Southeast Region Commander is running for the position of NATIONAL COMMANDER. The election will take place at the National Board Conference to be held this year in Tampa, Florida from 18-21 August 2004. I would like to ask all of you to join in supporting Col Pineda in his run for the position of National Commander.***